



## NEWS RELEASE

**Chuck Wolfe**  
[Chuck.Wolfe@ky.gov](mailto:Chuck.Wolfe@ky.gov)  
Office of Public Affairs  
502.564.3419  
Cell 502.382.7665

### **For Immediate Release**

### **‘Over the river and through the woods’ safely** *Motorists are encouraged to prepare vehicles for winter travel*

**FRANKFORT, Ky. (Nov. 19, 2012)** – The Kentucky Transportation Cabinet (KYTC) encourages motorists across the state to prepare their vehicles for holiday travel and winter weather.

“Motorist safety is our foremost concern,” said Transportation Secretary Mike Hancock. “Taking a few precautions now will help make holiday trips safer, and drivers will be better prepared should a cold weather emergency occur.”

According to the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration (NHTSA), vehicle owners should check the condition of the vehicle’s battery, tires and windshield wipers – and replace them if necessary.

NHTSA also suggests adding no-freeze fluid in the washer reservoir and checking the vehicle’s antifreeze.

“Basic vehicle maintenance is the first step in making holiday travel safer,” Hancock said. “It’s a relatively quick process that may help prevent an unfortunate situation later.”

In addition, the American Automobile Association (AAA) recommends carrying the following items during colder weather:

- Ice scraper and brush
- Jumper cables
- Flashlight
- Small shovel
- Sand or cat litter – for added traction

For longer winter road trips, AAA suggests packing some additional items:

- Extra winter clothing
- Blanket or sleeping bag
- First aid kit
- Food and water

For the latest travel and road condition information in Kentucky, motorists may dial 511 or log onto [511.ky.gov](http://511.ky.gov).

Emergency motorist assistance on Kentucky's interstates and parkways is available by calling 877-FOR-KYTC.

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